Equal Rights

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SATURDAY,
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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PERIODICAL DIVISION

The First Day At "The Women For Congress"
Campaign Headquarters In Philadelphia

Feminist Notes

Trade Unions Congress Supports Sex Equality

ON the motion of Miss Dorothy Evans at one of the sessions for the Trade Unions' Congress, held at Hull, England, the first week in September, the Congress pledged support to the organizations of civil servants now pressing for the equal treatment of men and women, and urged the government to put these long-standing principles of the Labor Party into force.

The Congress also unanimously adopted a composite resolution calling for state pensions for widows and for mothers of families whose breadwinner is incapacitated.

Unorganized Women

AT another session of the Trade Unions' Congress, held at Hull, Miss Anna Loughlin, representing the tailors and garment workers, moved a resolution which described the overwhelming number of unorganized women in industry as a serious menace to the standard of living of the workers, and urged the need of their enrollment in the trade unions. Miss Loughlin explained that employers engaged women not because they were women, but because they were cheap, and that the problem was not one for the women's unions alone, but for the whole of trade unionism. Her resolution was carried.

Proposal For Women Professors At Cambridge

A RECENT controversy dealing with the admission of women as professors at the University of Cambridge, England, resulted in a proposal made by the commissioners of the university to recommend a revision of the statutes of the university to include women on the faculty. The new statutes will be framed to make women eligible for professorships, readerships, university lectureships and examinerships. A proposal was also made to provide that faculties at the university consist of fellows of colleges, and that these fellowships include those of the women's colleges, Selwyn, Girton and Newham.

Women's Parliament

THE annual conference of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, known as the "Women's Parliament," is to be held at Brighton, England, October 6th to 10th. The Parliament is made up of about 150 women's organizations and represents all classes and points of view, politically, socially and industrially. Lady Astor will preside at the opening session and Mrs. George Morgan, the council's president, will preside at the remainder of the sessions, with the exception of the last meeting, which will be presided over by Lady Frances Balfour. Problems of women in industry and in the home will provide the chief topics under discussion.

Women Peace Makers

IN a recent issue of *The Vote* (England) is a review of "Women Peace Makers" by Hebe Spaull, a book dealing with the work of seven women who are permanently connected with the League of Nations' activities. They are Froken Forchhammer, the Danish woman substitute delegate to the assembly, who also sits on various league committees; Dame Rachel Crowdy, chief of the social section of the Secretariat at Geneva; Froken Jeppe of Near East fame; Fru Kjelsberg, the Norwegian factory inspector; Mme. Curie, the great scientist; Mrs. Coombe Tennant, J. P., who was included in the British delegation to the assembly in 1922, and Dame Edith Lyttelton, who went in the same capacity last year.

The review tells of Miss Forchhammer heading a procession of some 20,000 women through the streets of Copenhagen to the Danish Parliament House in 1915 after woman suffrage had been granted. She was there invited to come up to the rostrum and address the Parliament—the first woman to do so. Froken Forchhammer was also the first woman to speak in the assembly of the League of Nations, of which she has been a member since 1920.

The life-work of Miss Karen Jeppe, a member of the League's Committee on Deported Women and Children of the Near East, reads like a romance. At 26 years of age she first heard of the Armenian massacres, and sacrificing a teaching career in Denmark, went out to Urfa, in Mesopotamia, to take charge of the orphanage maintained by the German Orient Mission for some 300 Armenian Christians.

The work of Fru Betzy Kjelsberg, the first woman elected to the Norwegian legislature, and one of the world's pioneers in social reform, is vividly told. Her first piece of public work was the organization of a society called the Business Women's Union, the object of which was to improve the conditions under which the women employed in the offices of Drammen (where she was living) worked. Later she became a member of the Drammen Town Council, and was several times called to serve on the special jury connected with the Chief Norwegian Criminal Court She also served on several Royal Commissions. Norway was one of the first countries to pass factory laws to protect the workers, and, in 1910, Fru Kjelsberg was appointed the first woman factory inspector. Since then, Fru Kjelsberg has visited many countries in order to study their factory conditions and has been appointed by Norway as deputy government delegate at the annual conferences of the International Labor Office of the League of Nations.

Nuns Demand Equal Rights

A SPECIAL meeting was held by over 350 Japanese nuns while they were attending a memorial service in Kyota, in August, at which they adopted a resolution demanding an equal right with priests in electing the highest committee of the sect. This resolution included a statement demanding the establishment of a higher educational organization for nuns than that now in existence.

Bengal Women To Vote

AT the summer session of the Bengal Legislative Council a resolution was presented requesting the government of Bengal to remove the women's disqualifications in connection with voting for the Bengal Council elections. When moved in the last Council, about three years ago, it was defeated.

Mrs. Besant's Work

IN a recent issue of *Stri Dharma* (India) is an appreciation of Dr. Annie Besant's work for the women of India during her fifty years of serving humanity. The article states that along with her work in theosophy, Dr. Besant has acted as president of the Women's Indian Association. It also mentions the fact that her first public lecture, given in India, August 25, 1874, had as its subject the "Political Status of Women."

Women Working In Vote Drive

THAT the woman's vote may count in the coming November elections, the League of Women Voters of the United States is organizing a non-partisan "Get-Out-the-Vote" campaign to raise the percentage of women voters. The Washington Headquarters reports that in many of the states where primaries have already been held an increase of from 66 to 80 per cent. is shown over the 1920 figures.

Progress of Women for Congress

NATIONAL campaign headquarters were opened this week in Philadelphia by the National Woman's Party, and now 1505 Walnut street is the hub of the WOMEN FOR CONGRESS campaign. Headquarters banners flaunt their purple, white and gold in the faces of Philadelphians and command attention to the proudly displayed slogan, WOMEN FOR CONGRESS. The Headquarters consist of the whole ground floor of a building in the heart of Philadelphia. They have been given free of charge by a supporter of the WOMEN FOR CONGRESS campaign.

Already many strangers have entered the doors to find out more about the campaign and the strategic position of the Headquarters, in the center of the town, bids fair to be a real asset in compelling interest.

Miss Martha Souder, vice-chairman of the Pennsylvania committee, is in charge of the campaign Headquarters. Miss Souder's home is in Philadelphia, and she is well acquainted with political conditions throughout the state.

HEADQUARTERS have also been opened during the week at Meadville and at Erie, which are the principal cities in the 29th District, where Mrs. Culbertson is running. Headquarters for the 9th District have been established in Miss Van Skite's large house in Pottstown. Headquarters for the 10th District have been opened in Lancaster.

Doris Stevens, a member of the National Council of the Woman's Party and one of its most gifted and devoted workers, has undertaken the task of general campaign manager for the entire WOMEN FOR CONGRESS campaign. Her headquarters are in Philadelphia, and from there she will keep in touch with the activities throughout the state. Each district is also in charge of a campaign manager, who concentrates upon her particular district. Jean Wold, national organizer, is campaign manager for the 2nd District; Anita Pollitzer, national secretary of the Woman's Party, is campaign manager for the 3rd District; Janet Fouts, national organizer, is campaign manager for the 9th District; Mabel Vernon, national executive secretary, is campaign manager for the 10th District; and Margaret Whittemore, national vice-president, is campaign manager for the 29th District.

Women from many states have volunteered their services for the campaign. Zona Gale of Portage, Wisconsin, a member of the National Council of the Woman's Party, will speak the first week in October at a dinner in Erie and at a dinner in Meadville in support of Mrs. Culbertson's campaign. Mrs. John Rogers of New York City, national vice-president, will spend two weeks in October in Philadelphia, speaking in behalf of the two Philadelphia candidates. Mrs. George Hendrie of Detroit, Michigan state chairman, and Mrs. Nelson Whittemore of Detroit, former Michigan state chairman, are scheduled for a number of meetings in Erie and Meadville.

In addition to volunteers who are coming in person from the different states to help with the speaking and canvassing, meetings are being held by the various state branches to raise money for the campaign. The New York City Committee, among others, is organizing a WOMAN FOR CONGRESS dinner in New York for October 26th to raise funds for the campaign. All of the five Woman's Party candidates for Congress have been invited to speak at this dinner. Mrs. Stephen Pell, national finance chairman, called a meeting of the finance committee in New York during the past week to plan the raising of funds for the campaign. The committee engaged an organizer whose special work will be to concentrate on the raising of money for the election campaign.

PROMINENT women are returning in large numbers after their summer vacation trips, and the work is gathering in new recruits every day. Many are giving a few hours of their time at Headquarters, explaining the campaign to inquiriers. Some help to distribute literature; some assist in the house-to-house canvass, enlisting the interest of the women voters. Posters and dodgers setting forth the record of the various candidates are being prepared for circulation.

Open-air meetings have also been started in the Philadelphia districts and nightly large crowds gather around the automobiles from which the Woman's Party speakers explain the campaign and urge the voters to support the women candidates.

The Woman's Party Candidates

MRS. JESSIE COLLET, Philadelphia, Pa.

DISTRICT—2nd Congressional District of Pennsylvania.
TICKET—Democratic and La Follette.
OPPONENT—George S. Graham, Republican.
VOTING POPULATION—36,862 votes cast in district in 1922 for Congressman.
MAJORITY OF PRESENT INCUMBENT—Graham's majority in 1922 was 26,078.

MRS. JENNIE DORNBLUM, Philadelphia, Pa.

DISTRICT—3rd Congressional District of Pennsylvania.
TICKET—La Follette.
OPPONENTS—Harry C. Ransley, Republican.
Edward P. Carroll, Democrat.
VOTING POPULATION—39,185 votes cast in district in 1922 for Congressman.
MAJORITY OF PRESENT INCUMBENT—Ransley's majority in 1922 was 26,931.

MISS ANNA VAN SKITE, Pottstown, Pa,

DISTRICT—9th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.
TICKET—Prohibition.
OPPONENTS—Henry W. Watson, Republican.
C. William Freed, Democrat.
Elmer H. Young, Socialist.
VOTING POPULATION—51,838 votes cast in district in 1922 for Congressman.
MAJORITY OF PRESENT INCUMBENT—Watson's majority in 1922 was 12,266.

MRS. DAISY DETTERLEIN, Lancaster, Pa.

DISTRICT—10th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.
TICKET—La Follette.
OPPONENTS—William W. Greist, Republican.
Frank C. Musser, Democrat.
VOTING POPULATION—63,562 votes cast in district in 1922 for Congressman.
MAJORITY OF PRESENT INCUMBENT—Greist's majority in 1922 was 3,528.

MRS. ELIZABETH R. CULBERTSON, Meadville, Pa.

DISTRICT—29th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.
TICKET—Prohibition and La Follette.
OPPONENTS—Milton W. Shreve, Republican.
Edward M. Murphy, Democrat.
G. F. Burger, Socialist.
VOTING POPULATION—32,333 votes cast in district in 1922 for Congressman.
MAJORITY OF PRESENT INCUMBENT—Shreve's majority in 1922 was 5,753.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

Annual Dues..... $10.00
Associate Members..... $1.00
Founders..... $100.00
Life Members..... $1,000.00
Endowers..... $5,000.00
Sustainers..... $5,000.00

OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation"

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 21.
House Joint Resolution Number 75.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 10, 1923, by Senator Charles E. Curtis.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 13, 1923, by Representative D. R. Anthony.

The Election Campaign

THIS week saw the next to the last of the primaries and conventions which have been going on all over the country. Every state in the Union but Rhode Island has now chosen all the candidates for Congress who will appear on the ballot in November.

The results of these primaries and conventions show clearly that women themselves must organize to place women in Congress, and that unless this is done we shall continue to have a national legislative body made up only of men. They show that the political parties are still unwilling to give women the opportunity of holding the more important and more highly paid offices, and will allow them to run for these offices only when there is supposed to be no chance of victory.

Out of the forty-seven states which have held their primaries or conventions, only six have nominated a woman for Congress. Of these six states, Pennsylvania has nominated five women, and Illinois, Ohio, Tennessee, Kansas and New Jersey have each nominated one woman. No other state has nominated any women, except in a few cases on a ticket of such minor importance in the district that the nomination is negligible. This means that forty-one states have given no woman a chance even to have her name on the ballot as a contestant in the Congressional race.

In the six states which have nominated women, the women have received, with one exception, only those nominations which no man wanted.

The Republican Party has given the nomination for Congress to only one woman, and has nominated men in the other Congressional districts. This one Republican nomination of a woman is in the South, in a Democratic district, where the chance of Republican success seems slight.

The Democratic Party has given the nomination for Congress to only five women, and has nominated men for the remaining Congressional seats. All of these five districts in which Democratic women have been nominated are, with one exception, Republican districts, where the chance of Democratic victory seems slight.

A few nominations for Congress have also been given to women by the Socialist Party and the Prohibition Party, but these nominations are mere forms, in districts where there seems no possibility of success for these parties.

Despite the fact that women have been nominated only in apparently hopeless districts, all of these women *can* win if their women constituents will rally to their support regardless of party affiliations. The Woman's Party is undertaking the WOMEN FOR CONGRESS campaign in the effort to arouse women to stand back of those women who have been nominated and prevent their going down to defeat.

While the Woman's Party wishes success to all the women candidates, it is concentrating its strength on the five candidates from Pennsylvania, in the belief that it can accomplish more by concentrating in one state, making that state an experiment ground for the whole nation, than it could by scattering its forces over the country. All of these five Pennsylvania candidates are members of the Woman's Party; all are strong feminists; all are splendid women and the type one would like to see in Congress. All of them, moreover, can be elected to Congress if women will make a concerted and determined effort to put them there.

But even if it proves impossible this time to rally voters to the support of these women nominees in sufficient numbers to put them in Congress, the campaign will at all events result in a much larger vote for these women than they would normally have received, and a beginning will have been made in breaking through the wall which now bars the women of the nation from a place in our highest legislative body.

New York Discriminations

By Burnita Shelton Matthews, LL.B., LL.M.

THE necessity for the Equal Rights campaign which the Woman's Party is waging is vividly brought home by a survey of the laws affecting the position of women in the various states. In these columns we have already given a survey of the laws discriminating against women in a number of states. We now present an outline of the New York laws discriminating against women, as an illustration of the legal inequalities in one of the states which is most advanced in its treatment of women.

The organized effort on the part of women to remove the discriminations against women in the New York law began in 1848. Yet after seventy years women are still denied this equality.

At each session of the New York legislature the New York branch of the Woman's Party endeavors to secure legislation giving to women all rights that men possess under the law. During 1923 and 1924 six Equal Rights measures were passed. They provide equal inheritance rights between a father and mother;[1] equal inheritance rights between a distant woman relative and a distant male relative;[2] equal rights between separated parents to the custody of their children;[3] equal protection for boys and girls in making wills of personal estate;[4] equal rights between the father and mother to the guardianship of the property of their children;[5] and equal pay for equal work for men and women tearchers.[6] Both the 1923 and the 1924 legislatures, however, failed to pass over twenty Equal Rights measures which were before them.

Simultaneously with the campaign to remove these legal discriminations by action of the state legislatures, the Woman's Party is working to secure an amendment to the national constitution establishing Equal Rights between men and women. When this amendment is adopted, all the inequalities of the New York law which are based on sex will be removed.

The legal discriminations against women today in the New York law are as follows:

THE FATHER OWNS THE SERVICES AND EARNINGS OF CHILDREN

THE services of a minor child belong to the father.[7] If the child is put to work, the father is entitled to its earnings.[7] On the other hand, the mother has no right to the services and earnings of the child unless the father is dead or has abandoned his claim.[8]

The child's services and labor are given to the father as compensation for his support of the child.[9] However, no compensation is provided for the mother for her constant service in the care of the child nor for her liability under the poor laws for its support.[10]

What Women Are Thinking

ELIZABETH ROBINS
In "ANCILLA'S SHARE"

"The primitive woman probably took the incident of child-birth at least as lightly as that young Swedish mother of today, who an hour before and a few hours after the event of her child, was gaily receiving her friends and ordering the life of her establishment. To an English visitor venturing to express astonishment: 'But why? a baby is not a disease.' There could, none the less, never have been a time when the human young was not feeble and helpless, for the infant's sake much, practically anything, would be endured by the mother.

"Commonplace as it is, the mass of women still do not recognize in this fact the governing influence in their history, and, by inevitable extension, the governing influence in the history of the race. The patience, self-control, caution, imposed by the mother's task, spread from care of the infant over the whole field of woman's relation to man. You cannot serve a supreme end by fits or in patches.

"Man's fierce need of the woman could be satisfied by fierceness or wooing. No end visible to the primitive intelligence made it necessary for him to 'learn' woman,

"Thus in his uncorrected vision she was not only much obscured. She was, aside from her two-fold use to him, nonexistent.

"It was so, that the old convention by which the pronoun 'he' was supposed to include 'her', turned out misleading in practice. 'He' was found not to indicate inclusion but rather exclusion which expressed the true inclination of the predominant partner.

"The ground of the modern woman's protest has been precisely the fact that 'he' meant in man's mind, what the plain word said, and not what he assured her that it meant."

FATHER ALONE ENTITLED TO SUE FOR CERTAIN INJURIES TO CHILDREN

THE father has such a property right in the labor of his minor child that he is entitled to sue any person for damages who wrongfully or negligently injures the child and thus causes a loss of its services and earnings.[11] Likewise when a minor daughter is seduced it is the father who collects the damages from the seducer.[12] Only when the father is dead or has forfeited his rights is the mother entitled to recover these damages.[13]

Certain exceptions to this general rule are provided by the Workmen's Compensation Law.[14]

MOTHER IGNORED IN CERTAIN COURT ORDERS AFFECTING CHILD

WHEN the court is petitioned to order an allowance from the estate of a minor for its support, notice must be given to the minor's father. The mother need not be notified if the father is living.[15]. The same is true when the court is petitioned to change the name of the minor.[16]

MOTHERS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

ALTHOUGH as to the legitimate child, the law gives the father greater rights than the mother, in the case of an illegitimate child, the existence of which is frowned upon by society, the weight of responsibility is placed upon the mother. The custody and control of such a child are solely the mother's; as a rule it takes her name and is held to be incapable of inheriting from anyone except her.[17] The father and mother of an illegitimate are both liable for its support,[18] but the mother is recognized as a parent for practically all purposes, while the father is a parent only to the extent of relieving the public from expense for the care of the child.[17]

THE WIFE'S SERVICES IN THE HOME BELONG TO HER HUSBAND

THE common law gives almost all property rights to the husband, and while New York has changed this law so as to permit a married woman to own and control property,[19] still the first right of property which a free person enjoys, that is, the full ownership of his or her labor, is still denied the married woman.[20]

Although she may collect wages for work performed outside the home for third persons,[21] the fact is that the household work and other home service devolve upon her and this labor or service is not hers, but is legally the property of her husband. According to a New York court, the husband is "personally entitled to such services to the same extent as he is to his own."[22]

Moreover, if the wife performs services in her home for persons outside the family, such as taking in boarders or lodgers or nursing, the husband is entitled to the pay for her work unless he agrees to "emancipate his wife * * * so as to enable her to collect * * * in her own right."[23] The New York statutes extending the rights of a married woman do not deprive the husband of "his common law right to avail himself of a profit or benefit from her services."[24]

The rule that the wife's services belong to the husband seems not limited to housewifely duties. It was held that where a wife works for her husband in his business she cannot enforce his promise to pay her for her services, for since these services are already his, such an agreement "is a promise to pay for that which legally belongs to him. * * * If he promises to pay her a certain sum for them, it is a promise to make her a gift of that sum."[25] In contrast, if a married man engages to work for his wife in her business, his claim for salary may be recognized even over the objection of the wife's creditors.[26]

Ownership by the husband of the wife's labor means that when prosperity comes or pay day arrives her services do not entitle her to share as a partner in the gains nor is she entitled to any part of the family income besides her necessary support.

The following cases illustrate the effect of this principle:

*Mrs Reynolds, a married woman in Washington county, for eight years cared for an old man who boarded with her in her home. This boarder, who was suffering from cancer, promised to pay her for her services. The work was difficult and disagreeable, including nursing, bathing, extra washing, and for six years dressing the cancer twice daily. Upon the boarder's death the court decided that Mr. Reynolds was the proper person to collect the compensation for his wife's labor, as "in the absence of some arrangement * * * the inference of law and of fact would be that she was working for her husband in the discharge of her marital duties."*[27]

In a case in New York City a man who had tuberculosis rented a room in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Porter. He asked Mrs. Porter to take care of him, and promised to remember her in his will. She cared for him for eleven years, until his death. The bequest of $500, *which the man made to Mrs. Porter in his will, was too small to pay for her services. A suit was brought to recover from the man's estate for the services which had been rendered. The husband collected the money for these services, the court holding that he was entitled to a reasonable amount for her services*—$7500. *"It is clear," said the court, "that the wife was acting not for herself, but in the service of and subordinate to her husband."*[28]

THE HUSBAND RECEIVES MONEY DAMAGES WHEN THE WIFE IS INJURED

ANOTHER effect of the husband's property right in his wife's services is that when she is injured through the wrongful act or negligence of a third person, except in cases covered by the Workmen's Compensation Act, the husband and not the wife is entitled to compensation for loss of her services and earning capacity, if she has been engaged in working in his business or in the home.[29] A wife has no corresponding right when her husband is injured. *For instance, when Mrs. Goldman, in* 1900, *sued "for the loss she had sustained as a wife" through Mr. Cohen's careless driving of a horse, whereby Mr. Goldman had been injured, it was held that a wife's "interest in her husband's life and companionship was not a right of property" and that she had no grounds on which to ask for damages.*[30]

HUSBAND'S DOMICILE CONTROLS THAT OF WIFE

THE general principle that a person of full legal capacity may choose his or her domicile does not apply to a married woman.[31] By a fiction of the common law the existence of the wife is merged into that of the husband, and consequently his domicile fixes her domicile. This means that unless the wife is separated from her husband for justifiable cause, she has no voice in the selection of her domicile, but the husband's domicile usually controls hers for even such purposes as voting, holding office and taxation.[31]

"A husband may establish a new domicile for himself, even if he has deserted his wife,"[32] but "if a wife is living apart from her husband without sufficient cause, his domicile is in law her domicile."[33]

WIDOW'S SHARE IN HER HUSBAND'S PROPERTY IS OFTEN LESS THAN WIDOWER'S SHARE IN HIS WIFE'S PROPERTY

WHEN a man dies his widow is entitled to the use for her life of one-third of the real estate owned by him during the marriage.[34] When a woman dies her husband is entitled to the use for his life of all her real estate, provided a child was born alive during the marriage; but the wife may deed or will away all interest in her real estate and thus defeat the widower's rights, while a husband cannot so defeat his widow's rights in his realty.[35]. However, in the personal property of a deceased consort a widow has the same interest as a widower;[36] and further, the rights of the widow as to the limited amount of property held by her husband exempt from levy and sale for debts are superior to those of the widower in such property of his deceased wife.[37]

WOMEN MAY NOT SERVE ON JURIES

THE laws of New York use the words "male citizens" in defining the qualifications of jurors.[38] The question of a woman's eligibility to serve came before the Supreme Court in King's County in 1920, when Julia V. Grilli, a woman lawyer, ably argued the case. The decision was that "jury service is not incidental to nor a part of suffrage," and, although the judge had no doubt of the "expediency" of permitting women to serve, he held that legislative enactment would be required to remove their disqualification.[39]

LAWS CONCERNING ADMINISTRATION GIVE PREFERENCE TO MALES

IN appointing a person to administer the estate of a deceased person, the law requires the judge to prefer a man to a woman when the applicants are equally related to the deceased.[40] Thus the father is preferred to the mother, the brother to the sister, and so on to the remotest of kin. Moreover, the unmarried woman is given preference over the married woman in the same degree of relationship.

WOMEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN INDUSTRY

NEW YORK has legislative restrictions on the labor of women which do not apply to men. A nine-hour day is

provided for women, and overtime with pay is prohibited.[41] As this law does not apply to men, they can, but women cannot be employed overtime in case of necessity or emergency, a circumstance which makes women less desirable than men as employees.

Moreover, New York says to its women, and not to its men, not only how many hours they may work, but also as to when those hours shall come. For example, there is a law arbitrarily forbidding women, but not men, from working at night after 10 P. M. in many employments.[41] It applies to work in candy shops, factories, elevators, street railways, drug stores and other establishments.

That such laws handicap women is shown by the following case:

When the night work law went into effect, Anna Schmidt, whose husband had been drafted into the army, was supporting herself and her two children by working in the evening as a waitress in a Buffalo restaurant from six o'clock until midnight. She desired these hours because she could then be best spared from the care of her young children and could realize the most from the liberal tips of patrons after theatre hours. Her employer, Joseph Radice, was convicted and fined $20 for the offense of allowing her to work until midnight. The case was taken to the Supreme Court of the United States, where the right of a state to bar women from earning their livelihood by night work was upheld.[42]

WOMEN TEACHERS DENIED EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

EQUAL pay for equal work for men and women teachers in the public schools of New York is provided by law,[43] but in other respects such as the appointment, assignment and promotion of teachers, the school authorities are left free to continue the custom of discriminating against women.

A survey of the educational system of New York shows that in proportion to the number of women in the system, the number of women in executive and administrative positions is negligible.[44] The principle of equal opportunity is apparently unknown.

In some parts of the state women teachers are penalized for marrying. For example, in Buffalo, according to the president of the Board of Education, married women are prohibited from taking the competitive examinations for teaching positions in the schools of that city.[45] In Syracuse a rule of the School Board reads:

> *"Should a female teacher marry, her place shall thereupon become vacant."*[46]

YOUNG GIRLS ARRESTED FOR BENEFIT OF MORALS WHILE THE MEN GO FREE

NEW YORK has a general law which protects the morals of children of both sexes under sixteen years of age,[47] and another is applicable to wayward female minors between sixteen and twenty-one years of age, but not to male minors.[48] The City of New York has a law which authorizes the arrest and sentence to a reformatory of any female over twelve years of age who is in danger of "becoming morally depraved."[49] Recently there was brought to the attention of the public the application of the latter law:

A Japanese dancing studio on Riverside Drive was raided by the police and nineteen white girls who were employed there, receiving a commission for each dance, were arrested. Although the girls were found not guilty of any offence,[50] *they were subjected to many indignities before the trial. The older girls were put in cells at the police station and the younger girls were sent to the Crittenden Home, where they were garbed in work clothes and made to scrub the floors. At the court they were kept in a room with disreputable persons, while their names and addresses were published in the newspapers. The men were not detained, there being no law under which they could be held.*

WOMEN ONLY PUNISHED AS PROSTITUTES

"ONLY a woman can commit prostitution. The man who has intercourse with a woman is guilty of immoral acts, but does not commit prostitution and is not a prostitute." This statement was made by a New York city magistrate in 1921 during the trial of a man who had been found in a room with two young girls—both nude—and who admitted having given each girl $25. Both of the girls as well as the woman in whose house the transaction occurred were convicted, but it was held that the man had committed no offense under the law.[51]

The existing statutes[52] must be further amended before such men can be punished.

A further result of the current construction of the New York law is that the regulations as to venereal disease are enforced unequally. Every woman charged with prostitution in the Women's Court is reported to the Board of Health. If she is convicted, she is examined for sexual disease. Those who need attention are sent to hospitals for treatment. As the men are not arrested with the women, there is no examination of men.

References given are to Cahill's Consolidated Laws of New York, 1923; Bender's Penal Law and Code of Criminal Procedure, 1924; decisions of the courts and other authorities.

1. Decedent Estate Law, Secs. 81, 84 and 85.
2. Decedent Estate Law, Sec. 92.
3. Domestic Relations Law, Sec. 70.
4. Decedent Estate Law, Sec. 15.
5. Domestic Relations Law, Sec. 80 as amended by 1924 Laws, Ch. 439.
6. 1924 Laws, Ch. 614.
7. Frey v. McLoughlin Bros., Inc., 187 App. Div. 824; Schouler Dom. Rel. Sec. 752.
8. Tidd v. Skinner, 225 N. Y. 422; Schouler Dom. Rel. Sec. 753.
9. Schouler Dom. Rel. Sec. 752.
10. Schouler Dom. Rel. Sec. 753; Code of Criminal Procedure, Sec. 921; Poor Law, Sec. 130, as amended 1924 Laws, Ch. 471.
11. Cowden v. Wright, 24 Wend. 429; Schouler Dom. Rel. Sec. 754.
12. Lawyer v. Fritcher, 130 N. Y. 239.
13. Tidd v. Skinner, 225 N. Y. 422; Gray v. Durland, 51 N. Y. 424.
14. Workmen's Compensation Law, Secs. 2, 10, 11.
15. Rules of Civil Practice, No. 293.
16. Civil Rights Law, Sec 62.
17. Schouler Dom. Rel. Secs. 708-9; Decedent Estate Law, Sec. 89; Bunce v. Bunce, 27 Abb. N. C. 61.
18. Code of Criminal Procedure, Secs. 838-886.
19. Domestic Relations Law, Secs. 50, 51.
20. Porter v. Dunn, 131 N. Y. 314.
21. Domestic Relations Law, Sec. 60.
22. Gorman v. New York, Chicago & St. Louis R. R. Co., 128 App. Div. 414.
23. Matter of Grogan, 82 Misc. 555.
24. Porter v. Dunn, 131 N. Y. 314.
25. Blaechinska v. H. Mission, 130 N. Y. 497. Note: When this case was decided the text of the law on married women's earnings differentiated slightly from the present text, but it is believed that the ruling as laid down remains unaffected.
26. T. N. Bank v. Guenther et al., 123 N. Y. 568.
27. Reynolds v. Robinson, 64 N. Y. 589.
28. Porter v. Dunn, 131 N. L. 314.
29. Blaechinska v. H. Mission, 130 N. Y. 497; Orhen v. State Investing Co., 197 App. Div. 658; Garrison v. Sun Printing & Publishing Co., 207 N. Y. 1.
30. Goldman v. Cohen, 30 Misc. 336.
31. In Re Green's Estate, 164 N. Y. S. 1063.
32. Haddock v. Haddock, 201 U. S. 562, 630, Opinion of Holmes, J.
33. Atherton v. Atherton, 181 U. S. 155, 164.
34. Real Property Law, Sec. 190.
35. Young v. Blake, 163 App. Div. 701.
36. Decedent Estate Law, Secs. 98, 100.
37. Civil Practice Act, Secs. 665-676.
38. Judiciary Law, Secs. 502, 598, 686; Code of Criminal Procedure, Sec. 229-B.
39. Matter of Grilli, 110 Misc. 46, 192 App. Div. 885.
40. Surrogate Court Act, Sec. 118.
41. Labor Law, Secs. 172, 181-5.
42. Radice v. New York, 264 U. S. 292.
43. Education Law, Sec. 883; 1924 Laws, Ch. 614.
44—Summary in Equal Rights, issue of May 10, 1924.
45. Letter from M. L. Felton, President Board of Education, dated August 12, 1924.
46. Letter from P. M. Hughes, Supt. of Schools, dated Sept. 4, 1924.
47. Penal Law, Sec. 486.
48. Code of Criminal Procedure, Secs. 913a-d.
49. Laws 1903, Ch. 436.
50. Cases 795 to 813, Jefferson Market Court, New York City, April 15, 1923.
51. People v. Breitung, City Magistrates' Court, City of New York, Borough of Manhattan, 4th District, 1921.
52. Criminal Code, Sec. 887.

From The Press

A Women's Bloc?

The Nation, September 3d, 1924.

"WITH a sure instinct the National Woman's Party invariably challenges public attention and climbs to the top of the first page of the newspapers. Its latest step is to repudiate all men in politics and to come out for a women's bloc in Congress. It will 'do its utmost to elect all women nominees, irrespective of their political affiliations, who seem qualified to sit in Congress and who will support the Equal Rights amendment and a general feminist program.'

"This is good publicity; but we doubt whether it is good politics. The Woman's Party has always consistently followed the policy of supporting one issue at a time. It supported suffrage, and suffrage only, until women had the vote; now it is supporting an Equal Rights amendment, and will help to elect only one breed of candidate: women who will support that amendment. But votes are needed for the success of such a program, and the Woman's Party asks the voters of the country to forget too many unforgettable facts. Even the women voters are more than women in these days: they are citizens, many of whom have felt the edge of hunger and the burden of economic injustice; they are workers, farmers, housekeepers, not only females and voters. Can the Woman's Party expect these people to support a Republican candidate because she happens to be pledged to the Equal Rights amendment? Can they even ask the women supporters of Mr .Coolidge and Mr. Dawes to vote for a woman running on La Follette's ticket?

"Before women had the vote it was possible to argue that all issues must stand aside and wait for the granting of that primary right. But once the vote was won, women walked into the field, their new weapon in hand, ready to fall upon any enemy that happened to look inviting. A large number of the more conservative suffragists found themselves in the League of Women Voters,a non-partisan body devoted to women's interests and interests deeply touching women—chiefly welfare measures, various reform projects, and peace. This organization avoids violently controversial questions like birth control. It opposes the 'whole-hog' feminist policy of the Woman's Party. It takes no stand on general economic issues. It has no policy for or against women in office; it works through the men and the existing parties. It has done much good work, but its caution and political aloofness will prevent it from ever becoming a fighting force.

"The Woman's Party, on the other hand, has remained militant. It is not interested in anything but equality for women. It ignores social and political problems which do not touch its immediate program. It took no cognizance of the industrial problem until it stubbed its toe on the question of welfare legislation—endangered or doomed by the Woman's Party amendment—and then it boldly kicked the impediment out of the way, saying: 'If equality means wiping out social legislation affecting women, let the legislation go, and good riddance to it.' It hopes that it can keep the attention of voting women as steadily fixed on one object as it could that of disfranchised women. We believe that this is impossible; women are going to vote according to the dictates of class interest and personal interest as well as sex interest. There are other revolutions going on in the world besides the women's revolution.

"But we agree none the less that no party, left to itself, will allow women an equal chance. Neither labor nor the farmer nor the business man nor the banker is ready to assume executive and political ability in women. They will steadily, perhaps instinctively, resist any such belief. They will accede to women's demands only so far as they wish to please or placate the woman's vote. For every party job, for every political office, for every legal change in the direction of equality, women will have to fight as women. Inside the party organizations the women will have to wage their own battle for recognition and Equal Rights. But the lines will be drawn inside party lines, not across them."

What's In A Name

Buffalo Express. September.

"NOW, now! What are we going to do with these advanced creatures who, though not objecting to matrimony, insist on still being known as, for instance, Miss Dill Pickle rather than Mrs. John Dough? Isn't she just as good a woman as Miss Pickle as she is as Mrs. Dough? And if she does work well enough to keep the job, shouldn't she have the money, either as Pickle or Dough?

"If the Comptroller-General of the United States has his way, the significance of the old query about what's in a name will be sharply emphasized, for the answer will be pay envelope or no pay envelope.

"We understand that a revolt has begun among the women employes of the Government in Washington. We expect to see it spread."

Divorces Wife For Bobbing Hair!

Elsie Janis in Liberty, July 26th, 1924.

"I READ that headline the other day. I think that's just a case of any old hair cut in a storm. That man has probably been looking for an out for years. He would have gotten rid of that wife even if she had a head of hair like one of the seven Sutherland sisters.

"If people are going to be loved for the length of their hair, I can see where D. Fairbanks, J. Barrymore, R. Valentino and other ravishing Romeos will have to withdraw, leaving their laurel wreaths for lovemaking to deck the domes of the House of David's band.

"Wouldn't it be nice and quite equal rightish if the girl whose better half objects to her cutting her hair should snap back with, 'All right, darling, and I object to you cutting yours! I'll let mine grow if you do!'"

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